

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PM-05 NSC-05  
SP-02 SS-15 SSC-01 SNM-05 DEAE-00 /056 W  
-----022787 070839Z /13  
R 060955Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2383

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PGOV, PINS, SNAR, NL  
SUBJ: SECRETARY GENERAL OF JUSTICE MINISTRY TO BE REPLACED  
IN JUNE

1. SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE ALBERT MULDER (61) WILL LEAVE HIS POSITION JUNE1, 1978 TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE PRESTIGIOUS COUNCIL OF STATE. HIS REPLACEMENT IS LEONARD ORANJE (53), NOW A DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL. MULDER IS KNOWN IN THE NETHERLANDS FOR HIS IRON GRIP ON THE MINISTRY. HE WON CONSIDERABLE RESPECT FOR THE MANNER IN WHICH HE HANDLED CRISIS SITUATIONS DURING SOUTH MOLUCCAN TERRORIST ACTIONS. MULDER'S STRENGTH AS THE MINISTRY'S TOP CIVIL SERVANT WAS ALSO DEMONSTRATED IN 1975, DURING A PUBLIC DISPUTE BETWEEN MULDER AND THE STATE SECRETARY OF JUSTICE. FORCED TO CHOOSE BETWEEN THE TWO MEN, THE THEN MINISTER OF JUSTICE VAN AGT DISMISSED HIS STATE SECRETARY.

2. COMMENT: MULDER'S DECISION TO ACCEPT MEMBERSHIP IN THE COUNCIL OF STATE APPEARS BASED ON PERSONAL GROUNDS, AND IS NOT DUE TO POLITICAL PRESSURES. ALTHOUGH HIS SUCCESSOR'S STYLE WILL BE DIFFERENT, NO CHANGES IN THE AREAS OF ANTI-TERRORISM AND DRUG POLICY ARE EXPECTED. ORANJE  
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IS A FRIEND OF THE U.S., WELL KNOWN TO THE EMBASSY, AND A STRONG SUPPORTER OF NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT. HE PARTICIPATED IN THE TRIPARTITE TALKS WITH U.S. AND CANADA ON NARCOTICS MATTERS. HE WAS MENTIONED AS A POSSIBLE CANDIDATE FOR MINISTER OF JUSTICE DURING GOVERNMENT FORMATION TALKS LAST YEAR. HOWEVER, IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN HOW ORANJE WILL MEASURE UP TO HIS

STRONG PREDECESSOR.  
BROWN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SECRETARY GENERAL, TENURE OF OFFICE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978THEHA01878  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780150-0477  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Subject:** SECRETARY GENERAL OF JUSTICE MINISTRY TO BE REPLACED IN JUNE  
**TAGS:** PGOV, PINS, SNAR, NL, (ORANJE, LEONARD)  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014